



RCE/3726

PTO/SB/30 (10-01)

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REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL

Address to:
Commissioner for Patents
Box RCE
Washington, DC 20231

Application Number	09/825,416
Filing Date	April 3, 2001
First Named Inventor	Ralph Shoberg
Art Unit	3726
Examiner Name	Eric Compton
Attorney Docket Number	RST-007-B

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application.

Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

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1. Submission required under 37 CFR 1.114

- a. ☐ Previously submitted
- i. ☐ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 CFR 1.116 previously filed on _____
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
- ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____
- iii. ☐ Other _____
- b. ☒ Enclosed
- i. ☒ Amendment/Reply
- ii. ☒ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
- iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
- iv. ☐ Other _____

2. Miscellaneous

- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(i) required)
- b. ☐ Other _____

3. Fees

The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

- a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 25-0115
- i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e) 10/31/2003 AWONDAF1 00000055 09825416
- ii. ☒ Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17) 01 FC:2801 385.00 OP
- iii. ☐ Other _____
- b. ☒ Check in the amount of \$385. + \$475. enclosed
- c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print/Type)	Thomas E. Bejin	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	37089
Signature		Date	October 27, 2003

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

Name (Print/Type)	Susan L. Dunlap	Date	October 27, 2003
Signature			

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Our Reference: RST-007-B

PATENT

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Amend
Attachment
11-4-03

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Shoberg, Ralph S.
Serial Number: 09/825,416
Filing Date: April 3, 2001
Examiner/Art Group Unit: Eric B. Compton/3726
Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR AUDITING A
TENSION LOAD IN THE THREADED FASTENER

COMMUNICATION

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PO Box 1450
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Claims 1-17 cancelled without prejudice.

18. (Previously presented). A method for comparing relative clamp loads
between a plurality of installed threaded fasteners comprising:

providing a plurality of tightened threaded fasteners;

applying a torque in a tightening direction a first of the tightened threaded
fasteners until a break away torque is reached;

measuring the torque values applied to the first tightened fastener and measuring
the angle through which the first fastener rotates;

defining a first zero-angle point to be a point at which a tangent from a torque
versus angle plot, created from the measured torque and angle values from the first tightened
fastener, crosses an angle axis;

defining a first audit angle to be the angle between the first zero-angle point and
the angle associated break away torque for the first tightened threaded fastener;

applying a torque in a tightening direction a second of the tightened threaded